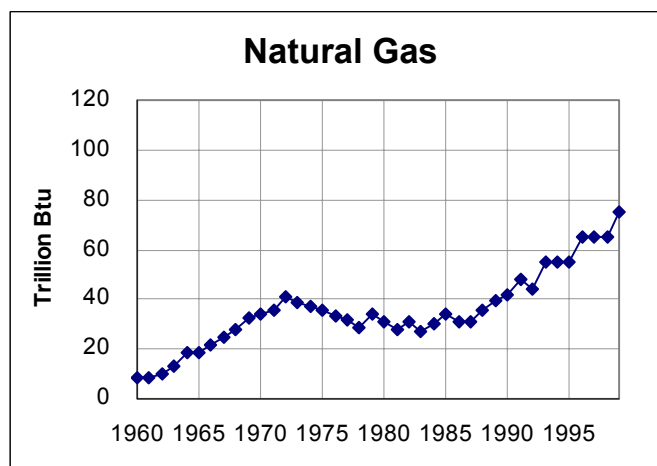
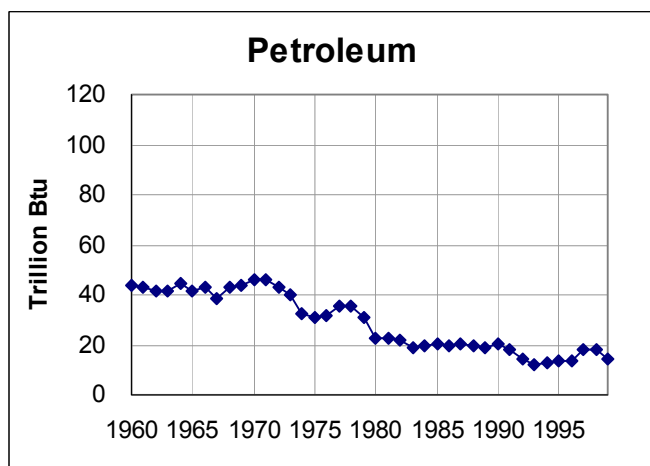
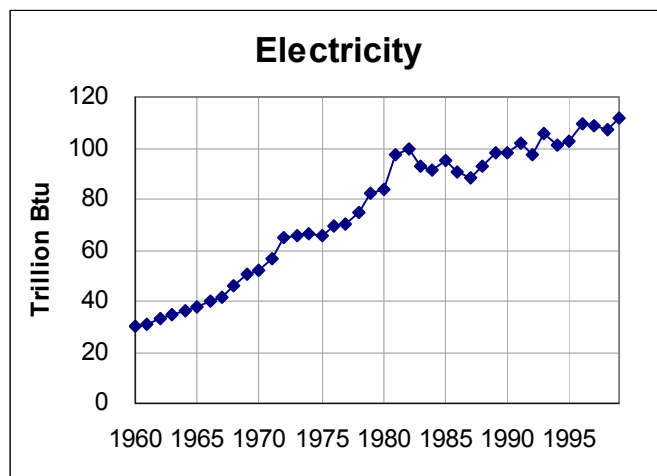
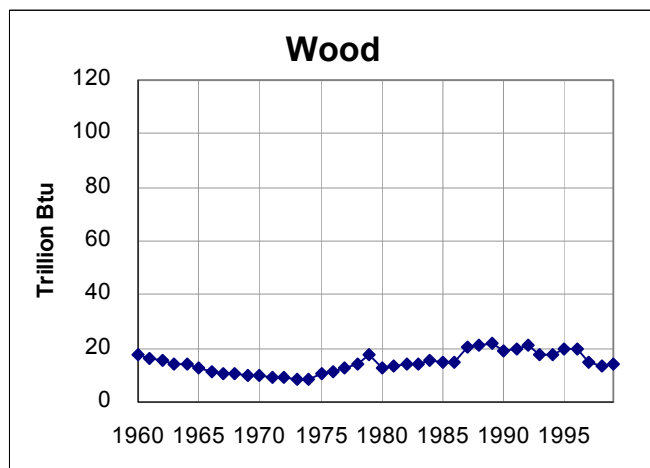


## 8. Residential Sector Trends — End-Use Energy Consumption by Fuel

### Residential Energy Consumption by Fuel (1960-1999)



SOURCE: EIA SEDS

**GROWTH IN HOUSEHOLD ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION HAS SLOWED IN THE LAST 16 YEARS, WHILE GROWTH IN NATURAL GAS USE HAS ACCELERATED. OIL CONSUMPTION HAS DECLINED SIGNIFICANTLY SINCE THE EARLY 1970s, WHILE WOOD USE GREW A MODEST AMOUNT DURING THIS PERIOD BEFORE A SLIGHT DECLINE IN THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS.**

Electricity accounts for a little more than half of residential energy consumption, but average electricity use per household has declined since 1982. Growth in natural gas consumption has accelerated: residential sector gas use grew at 1.9% per year between 1980 and 1985, 3.9% per year between 1985 and 1990, and 6.8% per year between 1990 and 1999. Petroleum use (mostly heating oil) fell from more than 43% of household consumption in 1960 to less than 7% in 1999.

Consumption of firewood grew in the late 1970s in response to high heating oil prices. After remaining relatively stable from the mid-1980s to mid-1990s, wood use declined a modest amount in the last several years.